



County of San Diego Planning & Development Services

February eBLAST

Excuse Our Dust!

Starting Thursday, Feb. 13, Planning & Development Services (PDS) will begin construction on our new reception area in the 3rd floor lobby at 5510 Overland Avenue. When it's finished, PDS staff will be available to personally greet our customers. We estimate the project to be completed in about three weeks so we appreciate your patience during this time.



Community Signs and Banners in the Right-of-Way



People driving in and out of San Diego County's unincorporated communities may soon start seeing a lot more decorative, informational and welcoming signs, after the Board of Supervisors (Board) unanimously approved new regulations that will allow such signs on County roads.

The Board had previously directed the County Department of Public Works (DPW) in October 2012 to develop guidelines and amend relevant ordinances to allow the installation of community identification and special event signs and banners in the public

Board of Supervisors

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

BILL HORN
Fifth District

Planning & Development Services

MARK WARDLAW
Director

DARREN GRETHER
Assistant Director

Important Dates

Board of Supervisors
Calendar and Agendas

Planning Commission
Calendars and Agendas

right-of-way. PDS teamed with DPW to gather input from community planning and sponsor groups, civic, business and professional organizations. The changes will allow community information signs (for community events), neighborhood and business watch signs, directional signs, street spanning banners and vertical pole-mounted banners in the public right-of-way.

The Board approved the new rules at its Jan. 8 meeting; the rules will take effect Feb. 28.

For additional information, please contact Kenton Jones (DPW) at (858) 694-3843 or kenton.jones@sdcounty.ca.gov or Heather Lingelser (PDS) at (858) 495-5802 or heather.lingelser@sdcounty.ca.gov. To read more about the new sign rules, see the [County News Center](#).

PDS Landscape Architect Serves as Expert at Sustainable Irrigation Workshop

County landscape architect Dave Kahler was among the panel of experts invited to make presentations at a Jan. 10 workshop that focused on sustainable irrigation. This informative class was organized by the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects and was held at the San Diego Gas & Electric Innovation Center in Kearny Mesa.

The workshop was incredibly timely, considering California's historic drought conditions and our region's water supply issues. The discussion covered current landscape efficiency guidelines and regulations, sustainable irrigation design, commercial versus residential usage, smart controllers, and soils management. The panel also touched on plan check processes and the most common mistakes made with landscape plans.

The rest of the panel included: Mary Radley, City of Chula Vista Landscape Architect; Gary Hoyt, Consulting Landscape Architect for Poway and Menifee in Riverside County; and Laurie Levine, Consulting Landscape Architect for several jurisdictions in Riverside County.

For more information about the County's sustainable landscape and irrigation requirements, go to:

[Landscape Ordinance and Design Review Manual](#)

[Landscape Documentation Package Checklist](#)

[Water Budget Calculations](#)

[Certificate of Completion Checklist](#)

[Certificate of Completion](#)

County Staff Team Up with East County Posse – Again!



When a small East County fellowship struggled to achieve its dream of having a place to worship, the East County Posse (ECP) and County staff worked together to make that dream come true. The fellowship had chosen a building that appeared to have insurmountable

zoning and septic system compliance issues.

ECP, which offers help to East County residents who need a "hand up, not a hand out" provided engineering and septic design services. The County Department of Environmental Health found a solution for the septic issues and approved the design. And

Did you know?

San Diego County has more plants and wildlife listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act than any other county in the continental United States.

Online Services

[Citizen Access Portal](#)

Research property information and permits. Apply for some permits online.

[GIS Maps](#)

Determine the zoning and characteristics of properties with our web-based mapping tool.



PDS staff, through good project management, simplified the processing requirements and saved the customer money. In the end the dream became a reality!

PDS Accepting Applications for Renewable Energy Technical Advisory Committee

The County has started a Comprehensive Renewable Energy Plan (CREP) work-program to find ways to streamline renewable-energy regulations and permitting, determine if the County can encourage renewable energy and attract investment, and help create renewable-energy jobs.



Phase one of the CREP work program is to gather information and make recommendations to the Board with regard to plans, programs and incentives that may be developed or amended to support renewable energy. To help with these efforts, PDS is forming a CREP Technical Advisory Committee. The committee will serve as a resource for staff and provide technical insight throughout the CREP work program. Staff expects the committee to meet roughly four times within a 12 to 14 month period. People who would like to serve on the committee should submit a completed application (found at <http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/pds/advance/CREP.html>) and send to the street address on the application or to matthew.schneider@sdcounty.ca.gov by Feb. 25.

For additional information contact Matt Schneider, matthew.schneider@sdcounty.ca.gov or 858-694-3714.

Jack Phillips – More than 30 Years of Community Service



PDS would like to recognize Jack Phillips' tenure as Chair of the Valle De Oro Community Planning Group (VDOCPG). He recently stepped down as Chair but will continue to serve on the planning group. We want to thank him for the time and effort

he has devoted to his community over the years. Mr. Phillips has been a dedicated steward of his community for more than three decades. His extraordinary passion for his community is evidenced by his active participation and engagement in the planning process. Staff recently had a chance to talk with Mr. Phillips about his time as Chair of the planning group.

Mr. Phillips reported that he has served on the planning group for 33 years - 32 years of which were as Chair. He said that during this time there have been four different Supervisors for District 2, with Supervisor Dianne Jacob being the most recent, and there have been five different Presidents of the United States!

When asked what motivated him to volunteer to serve on the planning group in the first place, Mr. Phillips said in the early 1980's, the County was processing an update to the General Plan that proposed up-zoning in the neighborhood where he and his wife had just bought property. He went to a planning group meeting and came away with the impression that the group, which was in infancy at that time, did not fully understand the importance

and impact of the proposed changes on their community. As a result, he felt that the group was not adequately informing and educating local residents. Unhappy with the situation, he said he spoke with then District 2 Supervisor Lucille Moore. She told Mr. Phillips that if he didn't like it then he should get involved. And he did just that for more than 30 years.

Mr. Phillips shared the story about his most memorable project that has come before the planning group. In the early 1990's, HomeFed Bank, which owned a large amount of land in the area, went bankrupt and decided to put its properties up for sale. Many of the parcels had approved maps that would have allowed more than 2,000 dwelling units. Foreseeing the impact on the community, Mr. Phillips and his fellow planning group members mobilized and helped convince then U.S. Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt to invest in saving the properties and establish the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge which still exists today.

Get a Taste of Sweet Success!



PDS's Natasha Garcia won the County's Healthy Holiday Dessert Recipe Contest, beating 64 other employees who entered the contest! Her delicious French dessert was called Pear-Almond Clafouti. Read all about it in the article at the [County News Center](#).

Welcome Aboard!

Bill Coleman joins PDS after spending the past 26 years overseeing the Survey Department for Piro Engineering in San Marcos. His broad experience includes planning, research, office and field calculations, deed and legal description review, and retracement for boundary and easement determination. Bill is licensed in the State of California as a Land Surveyor. Bill's knowledge and experience will make him a valued asset to the PDS team and its customers.



On The Move!



We are pleased to announce Vince Nicoletti as the new Chief of the Building Division for PDS.

Vince was asked to serve as Chief because of his knowledge and experience with our County and PDS culture, our focus on achieving organizational excellence, and his broad involvement with our services and stakeholders, which will be

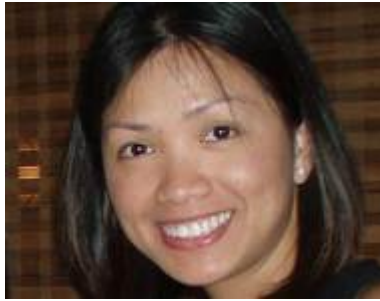
a valuable strength in the Building Division. Vince has been with the County since 2000 working in various positions and departments including, Project Manager in the Department of Parks and Recreation, Staff Officer in the LUEG Executive Office, and most recently, Chief of Support Services in our Department since 2009. While in PDS, he has led teams that developed and managed the Department budget, information technology, overseen measurement and analysis to manage workload and performance, and completed innovations such as expanded

online permits.

We look forward to Vince's continued leadership abilities and value his contribution to our organization!

PDS Staff Spotlight - Susan Hoang

Susan Hoang is a Civil Engineer with the PDS Land Development Division. Born in Vietnam, Susan and her family moved to the United States in 1994. She attended San Diego State University and graduated with a Civil Engineering degree. Susan began her professional career with Caltrans District 11. Susan started working for the County in 2002 and has been with the Department of Public Works and PDS Land Development Division since she joined County. Susan recently passed the Professional Engineer exam and is now a registered Civil Engineer with State of California. Congratulations Susan!



[Back to Top](#)

February 2014 Edition

County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services
5510 OVERLAND AVE, SUITES 110 & 310, SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
WWW.SDCPDS.ORG

